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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 09/848,520
Inventor(s) : Eric C. Berg et al.
Filed : May 3, 2001
Art Unit : 2128
Examiner : Fred O. Ferris III
Docket No. : 8070ML\$
Confirmation No. : 7535
Customer No. : 27752
Title : Computer Apparatuses And Processes For Analyzing A
System Having False Start Events

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, record is being made on the attached Form PTO/SB08 of references which the Patent Office may wish to consider in connection with examination of the above-identified patent application. It is respectfully requested that the cited references be carefully considered by the Examiner and made of record in this case. As provided in §1.97(g), no representation is made or intended that a thorough art search was made. As provided in 37 C.F.R. §1.97(h), this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement does not constitute an admission of any kind, and specifically is not an admission that the references listed on attached form PTO/SB08 are, or are considered to be, material to the patentability of the above-identified patent application, as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

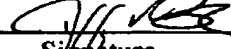
This information disclosure statement is being submitted under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c). A final action under 37 C.F.R. §1.113, a notice of allowance under 37 C.F.R. §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (e.g., *Ex parte Quayle*) has not been received as of the date of this submission. I hereby elect to pay the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p). Authorization is hereby given to charge the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) to Deposit Account Number 16-2480 in the name of The Procter & Gamble Company.

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Additional information is attached.

Respectfully submitted,
THE PROCTER & GAMBLE COMPANY

By 
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SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

JMP Software, available from SAS Institute, Cary, NC, U.S.A. (website www.jmp.com) is known to calculate uptimes and downtimes, including zero uptime events. However, JMP Software can neither collect data, nor perform the false start analysis of the claimed invention.

Two of the assignee's production systems were modeled using reliability engineering techniques to predict start-up of the systems. The modeling relied upon only competing cause failure analysis.

A specific piece of equipment, known as a splicer used to join two webs together, was modeled. The splicer was considered to have a failure at the end of each roll of material to be joined. Therefore, the model was considered to be a cumulative failure for the limited run time of the splicer upon reaching the end of the roll. Thus, the modeling was done using cumulative and competing cause failure analysis. This modeling was used in a decision to buy a new splicer. That splicer was, in turn, used to make product which was shipped to the trade.